

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr. Governor

Judith A. Monroe, M.D. State Health Commissioner

DATE:

February 9, 2009

TO:

All Local Health Departments

Attn: Chief Food Specialist

FROM:

A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS

Manager, Food Protection Program

SUBJECT:

Valley Services, Inc.-Peanut Recall

SUGGESTED

ACTION:

Peanut Recall; Due to Salmonella typhimurium; Recommend notification of affected stores via

phone, fax or e-mail.

From the information provided by FDA, the recalled products were distributed in the State of Indiana. The recalled products were distributed nationwide through Defense Supply Centers. Detail information is not available at this time. In addition, if any recalled product is found, please notify this office at 317-233-7360.

Valley Services, Inc. Recalls Emergency Shelf Stable Meals Because of Possible Health Risk

Contact:

Valley Services 601-664-3100

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- February 6, 2009 -- Valley Services, Inc. of Jackson, Mississippi is recalling approximately 25,881 cases of emergency shelf stable meal kits, under the Traditions™ label, because the meal kits may contain a peanut butter packet which is part of the precautionary national recall underway in accordance with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Boca Grande Foods, the manufacturer of the peanut butter packet, issued a recall notice to Valley Services, Inc. stating that the peanut butter packets contained peanut butter product that was supplied by the Peanut Corporation of America and it has the potential to be contaminated with *Salmonella*, an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Healthy persons infected with *Salmonella* often experience fever, diarrhea (which may be bloody), nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. In rare circumstances, infection with *Salmonella* can result in the organism getting into the bloodstream and producing more severe illnesses such as arterial infections (i.e., infected aneurysms), endocarditis and arthritis.

The Traditions™ emergency shelf stable meal kits were sold to the Defense Supply Center from September 11, 2008 to September 26, 2008.

The Traditions™ meal kits cases include 24 meal kits packaged in 7" x 4 ½" x 2 ¾" snack boxes. Each meal kit may contain a .75 ounce POCO PAC® or GRANDE GOURMET™ peanut butter individual plastic container. Each Traditions™



meal kit case is labeled with one of the following product codes with a lot code date range from 9/9/2008 to 9/22/2008: 511, 512, 513, 515, 516, 517, 518, 524 or 524. The meal kits are not marked with UPC codes.

The recall was initiated when Boca Grande Foods, Inc. was notified that Peanut Corporation of America was recalling the peanut butter paste used to manufacture Boca Grande Foods, Inc.'s POCO PAC® and GRANDE GOURMET™ peanut butter products. Valley Services, Inc. has not used or distributed any emergency meal kits containing these peanut butter products since September 26, 2008. No illnesses have been reported to date.

The Defense Supply Center has been directly contacted by Valley Services, Inc. Consumers that have this product should not consume the peanut butter product. They should discard the peanut butter product. Consumers with questions or concerns may contact the company at 800-541-3805.

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